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Claims searched: 1-4.6

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Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK CI (Ed.P): G1N-NACL, NAEPR, NAHB

Int Cl (Ed.6): G01N-27/04, 27/12

Other: Online database: WPI

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage		Relevant to claims
A	GB 2158246 A	(SHARP) e.g. page 2, lines 14-27	
A	US 4649364	(TANAHASHI et al) e.g. column 6, line 44-column 7, line 14	
A	US 4489603	(FUKAMI et al) e.g. column 2, lines 30-52	
A	WPI Abstract Accession No. 82-84710E/198240 & JP 570139651 A (SHARP) 28.08.82 (see abstract)		

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.